I glanced quickly to my right from my left motioning some of these people to move backward as the vehicle was also moving backward. At this time I heard a gun discharge. With my arms out stretched, I wheeled to my left over my shoulder. I saw officers struggling with the person who had apparantly shot Oswald, and other officers were moving Oswald back into the jail office.
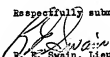
Almost at the time the shot was fired, the news media and photographers plunged forward upon the scene. I immediately forced them backwards while the other officers were subduing the person who fired the shot. I was able to contain these people until additional help arrived. Some of the officers that I know came to my assistance very quick were Sgt. P. T. Dean, Detective H. L. McGee, and I. F. Van Cleave. At the time the prisoner Oswald emerged from the jail office, the central area of the ramp was clear except for photographers and news media who were blocking the vehicle.

While I was moving those persons blocking the ramp on my right and to the south, I glanced toward the prisoner Oswald and saw two or possibly three news media to the left of Detective Graves, and slightly in front of him, they had microphones to portable recorders stuck up in front of Oswald and Graves. I know that Officer W. J. Harrison was several feet to my left in front of the TV lights, and to the best of my knowledge he was facing the lights just prior to the time the shot was fired. Along with several officers I continued to restrain the photographers and news media while the ambulance arrived and took the prisoner Oswald from the basement.

I remained in the basement area until it was cleared. During this time, Officer Harrison told me that the person who fired the shot was Jack Ruby. I have known Jack Ruby since about 1948. I have not seen him since about 1948 or 1949.

I am sure the man Ruby did not pass between Officer Harrison and myself.

Respectfully submitted,

R. E. Swain, Lieutenant
Burglary & Theft Bureau

RES/lh

96

Mr. J. E. Curry
Chief of Police

Re: Shooting of Lee Harvey Oswald

Sir:

I had been available to Captain Fritz's office most of the morning of November 24, 1963. I was in this office shortly before 11:00am. Seeing that preparations were under way to move Oswald out of the building, I stepped across the hall to the Burglary and Theft Office and instructed the men who were standing by to report to the jail office two at a time. These men were instructed to assist in any manner needed.

About 11:00am, the party in Captain Fritz's office started moving out. I was the first out of the office; walking to the hall door leading to the jail elevator. I unlocked this door and admitted Captain Fritz, Detective Leavelle, Graves, and Montgomery, and the prisoner Oswald. Oswald was handcuffed to Detective Leavelle.

When the elevator was loaded, I was the last person to enter the elevator. When we reached the basement, I was the first person off. About the time we got off the elevator, Captain Fritz was behind me, and he told me I would have to ride in the second car because we could only get five in the first car which contained the prisoner. He mentioned for me to lead out. We went out the door on the East side of the jail desk.

When I walked out into the driveway, I found that press photographers and news media were surrounding the area. Strong flood lights were focused in the direction of the jail office. They were blinding. These lights were located at the Northeast corner of the area of the opening leading from the jail office.

The vehicle in which the prisoner was to be loaded was attempting to back into the opening in front of the jail office where unruly prisoners are generally unloaded. I immediately moved forward toward the east side and on the south edge of this crowd, moving the crowd of photographers and newsmen backward. These people were blocking the vehicle's movement, being in between the vehicle and the prisoner. I had both arms out stretched and was able to contain these people in a fairly wide area. I was facing east with my back to the prisoner. To my left I could see that everything was clear nearly to the flood lights. There was about two officers to my left along the drive way. However, the news media were standing about three deep.